and commercial semis being auctioned/tendered/allotted by Bhilai Steel Plan every month to Nagpur;

(b) if so, any other demands made by the Association; and

(c) the action taken by the Government in view of the provision of funds to secondary steel producers out of steel development funds collected by Joint Plant Committee (JPC) and conversion of training institution of National Institute of Secondary Steel Technology (NISST) into full fledged technical institution?

THE MINISTER OF FOOD AND MINISTER OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI DEVENDRA PRASAD YADAV): (a) to (c) Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

[Translation]

Handicapped Quota

1012 DR. BALIRAM: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether reservation for handicapped persons in Group C and D posts have been considered in the Department Examination;

(b) if so, the number of candidates selected during the last three years till date Group-wise, Circle-wise;

(c) whether complaints have been received from the handicapped candidates for not providing reservation for any post;

(d) if so, the details thereof, and

(e) the action taken by the Government thereon?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI BENI PRASAD VARMA): (a) Reservation for handicapped persons in Group 'C' and 'D' is considered at the time of recruitment on the basis of result of examination as envisaged in DOP & T O.M. No. 36035/17/85-Estt. (SCT) dated 1.4.1986.

(b) to (e) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

[English]

Air Service between New Delhi and Hong Kong

1013 SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Air India propose to introduce a new air service between New Delhi-Hong Kong;

(b) whether air services pact has been signed between India and China in this regard;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether similar agreements were made between both the countries in the past also; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI C.M. IBRAHIM): (a) Air India is already operating five services a week between Delhi and Hong Kong.

(b) to (e) The air services operations between India and Hong Kong were earlier regulated by the India - UK Air Services Agreement. A separate Air Services Agreement has now been signed between India and Hong Kong on 10th October, 1996.

Installation of Transponders and Interrogaters

1014 SHRI DEBI PROSAD PAL: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) the major Indian airports where transponders and interrogaters have been installed;

(b) the airports where these are non-functional and the reasons therefor;

(c) whether the shortcomings in ground control infrastructure had been pointed out to the Airport Authority of India by the President, Indian Commercial Pilots Association long back;

(d) if so, the action taken thereon so far;

(e) whether Government propose to review the working of the ground navigation instruments installed at Indian airports keeping in view the recent air disaster; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI C.M. IBRAHIM): (a) and (b) The 'Transponders' are provided in the aircraft. The Airports Authority of India (AAI) has undertaken installation of ground based Secondary Surveillance Radar (SSR) 'Interrogators' at Delhi, Mumbai, Calcutta, Chennai, Guwahati, Hyderabad and Thiruvananthapuram airports and the SSRs at Hyderabad and Thiruvananthapuram airports have been commissioned.

(c) and (d) Yes, Sir. AAI have installed the necessary SSR and other navigational aids.

(e) and (f) All the navigational systems are being regularly checked by the AAI to ensure adherence to the international performance standards.

[Translation]

Promotion of Tourism in Jammu and Kashmir

1015 SHRI SHIVRAJ SINGH
SHRIMATI SHEELA GAUTAM
SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA

Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the proposals received by the